Lauds Propers

Thursday Week III

31 Mar 2011

Invitatory Psalm Antiphon

Come, today, and listen to his voice: do not harden your *hearts.*

First Psalm

Psalm 87

Jerusalem, mother of all nations

Cantor: Glorious things are told of you, O city of *God.*

East Choir:
Its foundations are set on the sacred **moun**tains – *
the Lord loves the gates of Zion
more than all the tents of Ja*cob.*
Glorious things are told of you, O city of *God.*

West Choir:
I shall count Rahab and Babylon among those who acknow**ledge** me. *
The Philistines, Tyrians, Ethiopians –
all have their birthplace *here.*
Of Zion it will be said "Here is the birthplace of all **peo**ple: *
the Most High himself has set it *firm."*
Glorious things are told of you, O city of *God.*

East Choir:
The Lord shall write in the book of the **na**tions: *
"Here is their birth*place."*
They will sing as in joyful pro**ces**sions: *
"All my being springs from *you."*

Full Choir:
(profound bow)
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy **Spi**rit, *
as it was in the beginning is now,
and ever shall be world without end. A*men.*

Cantor: Lord God, your only Son wept over ancient Jerusalem, soon to be destroyed for its lack of faith. He established the new Jerusalem firmly upon rock and made it the mother of the faithful. Make us rejoice in your Church, and grant that all people may be reborn into the freedom of your Spirit.

Full Choir: Glorious things are told of you, O city of *God.*

Canticle

Isaiah 40

The good shepherd is God, the Most High

Cantor: The Lord is coming in power: the prize of his victory is with *him.*

East Choir:
Behold, the Lord God comes in strength, and his right arm **tri**umphs. *
Behold, his reward is with him, his prize is before *him.*
Like a shepherd he feeds **his** flock, *
he gathers the lambs in his arms and lifts them to his breast;

he carries the pregnant *ewes.*

West Choir: Who has measured the waters in the hollow of **his** hand *
and arranged the heavens with his *palms?*
Who has measured the dust of **the** earth, *
weighed out the mountains,
weighed the hills on the ba*lance?*
Who directed the spirit of **the** Lord? *
Who gave him advice in his *task?*

East Choir: With whom did he consult? Who **taught** him? *
Who led him in the paths of justice,
gave him knowledge,
showed him the way of understan*ding?*

West Choir: Behold, the Gentiles are like a drop in a **buc**ket, *
a piece of fluff on the *scales.*
All the islands are a handful **of** dust. *
What burnt-offering could be worthy of the Lord?
The forests of Lebanon could not feed that fire;
all the animals of Lebanon would not be enough for that sacri*fice.*
All the nations count for nothing be**fore** him: *
for him, they are nothingness and empti*ness.*

Full Choir: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy **Spi**rit, *
(profound bow) as it was in the beginning is now,
and ever shall be world without end. A*men.*

Full Choir: The Lord is coming in power: the prize of his victory is with *him.*

Second Psalm

Psalm 99

The Lord our God is holy

Cantor: Exalt the Lord our God; bow down before his holy moun*tain.*

East Choir: The Lord reigns! let the peoples **trem**ble. *
He is enthroned on the cherubim: let the earth *shake.*
The Lord is great in **Zi**on, *
he is high above all the peo*ples.*
Exalt the Lord our God; bow down before his holy moun*tain.*

West Choir: Let them proclaim his name – great and terrible **it** is, *
let them proclaim his holy name,
the powerful king, who loves jus*tice.*
The laws you establish **are** just: *
you have given Jacob uprightness and right judge*ment.*
Exalt the Lord our God; bow down before his holy moun*tain.*

East Choir: Praise the Lord, **our** God, *
worship at his footstool,
for he is ho*ly.*
Exalt the Lord our God; bow down before his holy moun*tain.*

West Choir: Moses and Aaron were among his **pro**phets, *
Samuel one of those who called on *him.*
They called on the Lord and he **list**ened, *
and from the pillar of cloud he spoke to *them.*
They kept his **dec**rees *
and the commands he gave *them.*
Lord our God, you listened **to** them; *
O God, you were gracious to them,
but you punished their wrongdo*ing.*
Exalt the Lord our God; bow down before his holy moun*tain.*

East Choir: Praise the Lord, **our** God, *
worship on his holy mountain,
for the Lord our God is ho*ly.*

Full Choir: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy **Spi**rit, *
(profound bow) as it was in the beginning is now,
and ever shall be world without end. A*men.*

Cantor: God, you are the source of all holiness. Though no one can see you and live, you give life most generously, and in an even greater way restore it. Sanctify your priests through your life-giving Word, and consecrate your people in his blood until our eyes see your face.

Full Choir: Exalt the Lord our God; bow down before his holy moun*tain.*

Reading

1 Kings 8:51-53

Lector: Lord, we are your people and your heritage. Be always watchful for the entreaty of your servant and of your people Israel, and listen to us whenever we call to you. For it was you who set us apart from all the peoples of the earth to be your own heritage.

(Silent Reflection)

Responsory

Lector: He himself will free me from the hunter's snare.
Full Choir: – *He himself will free me from the hunter's snare.*
Lector: And from evil slander.
Full Choir: – *He himself will free me from the hunter's snare.*
Lector: (all: profound bow) Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
Full Choir: – *He himself will free me from the hunter's snare.*

Benedictus Antiphon

If it is through the finger of God that I cast out devils, then the kingdom of God has overtaken *you.*

Intercessions

Lector: *All praise to Christ the Lord, the light of the world. Thanks to him we walk not in shadows but in living light. We offer him our prayer:*
– May your word be a lantern to guide our steps.

Full Choir: *– May your word be a lantern to guide our steps.*

Lector: Most kind God, may we learn today to imitate you more closely.
Our nature fell with Adam: raise it to its feet.

Full Choir: *– May your word be a lantern to guide our steps.*

Lector: Give us your word as a lantern to guide our footsteps:
if we follow you truly, every action will increase our love.

Full Choir: *– May your word be a lantern to guide our steps.*

Lector: Teach us to do faithfully what is good, for the sake of your name,
so that the Church shines more brightly on the whole family of man.

Full Choir: *– May your word be a lantern to guide our steps.*

Lector: Give us sincere repentance: make us more and more seek your friendship
and atone for our sins against your wisdom and goodness.

Full Choir: *– May your word be a lantern to guide our steps.*

Prayer

Father, help us to be ready to celebrate the great paschal mystery. Make our love grow each day as we approach the feast of our salvation. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.